

in which respect it might easily have been mistaken for a *Papilio*. This feature, it is well known, is not uncommon among the moths of the family Geometridæ.

In answer to a query as to its food-plant, Mr. Evans writes us as follows:—"I am sorry to say that I am unable to tell you what the food plant of the caterpillar is. I found it holding on to a blade of grass near the Guyra Lagoon, and at first sight took it for a folded leaf, but on closer inspection found it was alive, but could not decide 'which end was which,' as there was apparently no difference." Mr. G. Lyell, Junr., informs me that he has observed the larva feeding on the Peppermint Gum (*Eucalyptus piperita*, Sm.)

The moth bred out on 3rd January, 1898.

DESCRIPTION OF A NEW ARANEIAD.

By W. J. RAINBOW, Entomologist.

(Plate xviii.)

Family ARGIOPIDÆ.

Genus *POLTYS*, C. Koch.

POLTYS MULTITUBERCULATUS, *sp. nov.*

(Pl. xviii., Figs. 2, 2a, 2b.)

♀ Cephalothorax 6·2 mm. long, 4·8 mm. broad; abdomen, 11·6 mm. long, 8·8 mm. broad.

Cephalothorax longer than broad, arched, dark brown, almost black, glossy. *Caput* arched, terminating in front with a tubercular ocular eminence, the latter 0·5 mm. high, and clothed in front with long grey hairs; commencing at base of ocular eminence and extending thence to the junction of the cephalic and thoracic segments there is, in the median line, a very conspicuous scopula, the hairs of which are long and grey. *Clypeus* broad, strongly arched, dark brown, almost black, glossy, median depression deep, radial grooves indistinct. *Marginal band* broad, and of a pale fleshy tint.

Eyes black; of these six are seated on the tubercular ocular eminence, and arranged in two rows, the lower consisting of four eyes, and these are in a curved line directed downwards and forwards; of this series the median pair are sensibly the largest of the group; each eye of the anterior row is separated from each other by a space equal to fully twice their individual diameter;

the two comprising the second row are separated from their anterior neighbours by a space equal to rather less than twice their diameter, and from each other by about three diameters; the remaining two lateral eyes are located in the angles of the cephalic segment at a distance from the tubercular eminence of about 0.5 mm.

Legs long, robust, armed with strong spines, yellow-brown with dark annulations, clothed on the outer margins with hoary grey hairs, on the inner margins with ferruginous grey; coxæ densely clothed underneath with grey hairs. Relative lengths 1 = 2, 4, 3.

Palpi long, similar in colour, armature, and clothing to legs.

Falces long, robust, arched, glossy, sparingly clothed with black hairs, apices divergent, yellow at base to about one-third their length, where it terminates suddenly, and is thence dark brown to tips; the upper margin of the furrow of each falx is armed with a row of four teeth, of which the two nearest the base are the longest and strongest; the lower margin is armed with two.

Maxillæ broad, arched, moderately long, divergent; laterally they are yellowish-brown, and clothed with rather long, hoary greyish hairs; inner surfaces glossy, pale flesh-coloured and naked, but the edges are furnished with dense hoary scopulæ.

Labium broader than long, arched, obtuse at apex, yellow-brown from base to about one-half its length, thence pale flesh-coloured.

Sternum shield-shaped, moderately arched, densely clothed with short greyish hairs.

Abdomen large, ovate, boldly projecting over base of cephalothorax, grey, with dark brown markings, and a large brown patch at the centre; sides grey; at the highest point of the anterior extremity there is a recurved row of nine tubercles, the central one of which is by far the largest and most prominent; besides these there are on each side of the superior surface of the abdomen twelve tubercles, the first nine of which are distributed over three slightly procurved rows of three each; the fourth row on each side consists of two each, and the twelfth tubercle is solitary; the total number of tubercles is 33; the median portion of the superior surface is, with the exception of two rather deep circular depressions, smooth; inferior surface yellow-brown with dark markings and moderately clothed with hoary hairs laterally, and yellowish pubescence in the median line.

Epigynæ, a small tri-lobed tubercular eminence, arched in front, hollow within.

Hab. Cooktown.

The specimen herein described was collected by Mr. E. A. C. Olive, of Cooktown, and presented to the Trustees of the Australian Museum by Mr. P. de la Garde, R.N., Paymaster of H.M.S. "Waterwitch."